



**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Tomohiro SAKAI  
Title: DISK ARRAY DEVICE HAVING POINT VALUE ADDED OR SUBTRACTED FOR DETERMINING WHETHER DEVICE IS DEGRADED  
Appl. No.: 10/781,709  
Filing Date: 2/20/2004  
Examiner: Elmira Mehrmanesh  
Art Unit: 2113  
Confirmation No.: 4198

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY ACCOMPANYING RCE**

Mail Stop Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 22, 2007, concerning the above-referenced patent application. This communication is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: